AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph occurring at Page 64, lines 3-17 as follows:

The "aliphatic C₂ to C₂₂ acyl group" used in the specification of the present application refers to a group obtained by bonding a carbonyl group to a terminal of the above-defined "C₁ to C₂₂ alkyl group" or "unsaturated C₂ to C₂₂ alkyl group". Examples include an acetyl group, propionyl group, butyryl group, iso-butyryl group, valeryl group, iso-valeryl group, pivaloyl group, caproyl group, decanoyl group, lauroyl group, myristoyl group, palmitoyl group, stearoyl group, arachidoyl group, acryloyl group, propiolic propioloyl group, erotonyl crotonoyl group, iso-erotonyl iso-crotonoyl group, oleinol oleoyl group and linolenoyl group. An aliphatic acyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, for example, an acetyl group, propionyl group, butyryl group, isobutyryl group and acryloyl group are preferable.

Please amend the paragraph occurring at Page 65, lines 1-7 as follows:

The "C₁ to C₂₂ alkylsulfonyl group" used in the specification of the present application refers to a sulfonyl group to which the above-defined "C₁ to C₂₂ alkyl group" is bonded. Specific examples include a methylsulfonyl methanesulfonyl group, ethylsulfonyl ethanesulfonyl group, n-propylsulfonyl n-propanesulfonyl group and iso-propylsulfonyl iso-propanesulfonyl group. For example, a methylsulfonyl methanesulfonyl group is preferable.

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Please amend the paragraph occurring at Page 66, line 23 through Page 67, line 2 as follows:

The "C₁ to C₂₂ alkylsulfinyl group" used in the specification of the present application refers to a group obtained by bonding a sulfinyl group to a terminal of the above-defined "C₁ to C₂₂ alkyl group". Examples include a methylsulfinyl-methanesulfinyl group, ethylsulfinyl ethanesulfinyl group, n-propylsulfinyl n-propanesulfinyl group and iso-propylsulfinyl iso-propanesulfinyl group. For example, a methylsulfinyl-methanesulfinyl group and ethylsulfinyl ethanesulfinyl group are preferable.

Please amend the paragraph occurring at Page 67, line 9 through Page 71, line 26 as follows:

Given as the substituent in a group "which may have a substituent" used in the specification of the present application is one or more groups selected from:

- (1) a halogen atom,
- (2) a hydroxyl group,
- (3) a thiol group,
- (4) a nitro group,
- (5) a nitroso group,
- (6) a cyano group,
- (7) a carboxyl group,
- (8) a hydroxy sulfonyl sulfonyloxy group,
- (9) an amino group,
- (10) a C_1 to C_{22} alkyl group

(for example, a methyl group, ethyl group, n-propyl group, iso-propyl group, n-butyl group, iso-butyl group, sec-butyl group or tert-butyl group),

(11) an unsaturated C_2 to C_{22} alkyl group

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(for example, a vinyl group, allyl group, 1-propenyl group, isopropenyl group, ethynyl group, 1-

propynyl group, 2-propynyl group, 1-butynyl group, 2-butynyl group or 3-butynyl group),

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- (12) a C₆ to C₁₄ aryl group
- (for example, a phenyl group, 1-naphthyl group or 2-naphthyl group),
- (13) a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaryl group

(for example, a thienyl group, furyl group, pyridinyl group, pyridazinyl group, pyrimidinyl group or pyrazinyl group),

(14) a 3-membered to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group

(for example, an aziridinyl group, azetidyl group, pyrrolidinyl group, pyrrolyl group, piperidinyl group, piperazinyl group, homopiperazinyl group, imidazolyl group, pyrazolidinyl group, imidazolidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, imidazolinyl group, oxazolinyl group or quinuclidinyl group),

- (15) a C_3 to C_{14} cycloalkyl group (for example, a cyclopropyl group, cyclobutyl group, cyclohexyl group, cycloheptyl group or cyclooctyl group),
- (16) a C_1 to C_{22} alkoxy group

(for example, a methoxy group, ethoxy group, n-propoxy group, iso-propoxy group, sec-propoxy group, n-butoxy group, iso-butoxy group or tert-butoxy group),

(17) an unsaturated C_2 to C_{22} alkoxy group

(for example, a vinyloxy group, allyloxy group, 1-propenyloxy group, isopropenyloxy group, ethynyloxy group, 1-propynyloxy group, 2-propynyloxy group, 1-butynyloxy group or 2-butynyloxy group),

(18) a C_6 to C_{14} aryloxy group

(for example, a phenyloxy group, 1-naphthyloxy group or 2-naphthyloxy group),

(19) a C_7 to C_{22} aralkyloxy group

(for example, a benzyloxy group, phenethyloxy group, 3-phenylpropyloxy group, 4-

phenylbutyloxy group, 1-naphthylmethyloxy group or 2-naphthylmethyloxy group),

- (20) a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaralkyloxy group
- (for example, a thienylmethyloxy group, furylmethyloxy group, pyridinylmethyloxy group, pyridazinylmethyloxy group, pyrimidinylmethyloxy group or pyrazinylmethyloxy group),
- (21) a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaryloxy group

 (for example, a thienyloxy group, furyloxy group, pyridinyloxy group, pyrimidinyloxy group or pyrazinyloxy group),
- (22) an aliphatic C2 to C22 acyl group

(for example, an acetyl group, propionyl group, butyryl group, iso-butyryl group, valeryl group, iso-valeryl group, pivalyl pivaloyl group, caproyl group, decanoyl group, lauroyl group, myristoyl group, palmitoyl group, stearoyl group, arachidoyl group, acrylyl acryloyl group, propiolic propioloyl group, erotonyl crotonoyl group, iso-crotonyl iso-crotonoyl group, oleinoyl oleoyl group or linolenoyl group), (23) an aromatic C7 to C15 acyl group (for example, a benzoyl group, 1-naphthoyl group or 2-naphthoyl group),

- (24) an aliphatic C₂ to C₂₂ acyloxy group (for example, an acetoxy group, propionyloxy group or acryloxy group),
- (25) a C₂ to C₂₂ alkoxycarbonyl group
- (for example, a methoxycarbonyl group, ethoxycarbonyl group, n-propoxycarbonyl group, iso-propoxycarbonyl group, n-butoxycarbonyl group, iso-butoxycarbonyl group, sec-butoxycarbonyl group or tert-butoxycarbonyl group),
- (26) an unsaturated C₃ to C₂₂ alkoxycarbonyl group
- (for example, a vinyloxycarbonyl group, allyloxycarbonyl group, 1-propenyloxycarbonyl group, isopropenyloxycarbonyl group, propargyloxycarbonyl group or 2-butynyloxycarbonyl group),
- (27) a C₁ to C₂₂ alkylthio group
- (for example, a methylthio group, ethylthio group, n-propylthio group or iso-propylthio group),

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(28) a C₁ to C₂₂ alkylsulfinyl group

(for example, a methylsulfinyl methanesulfinyl group, ethylsulfinyl ethanesulfinyl group, n-propylsulfinyl n-propanesulfinyl group or iso-propylsulfinyl iso-propanesulfinyl group),

(29) a C₁ to C₂₂ alkylsulfonyl group

(for example, a methylsulfonyl methanesulfonyl group, ethylsulfonyl ethanesulfonyl group, n-propylsulfonyl n-propanesulfonyl group or iso-propylsulfonyl iso-propanesulfonyl group),

(30) a C₆ to C₁₄ arylsulfonyl group

(for example, a benzenesulfonyl group, 1-naphthalenesulfonyl group or 2-naphthalenesulfonyl group),

(31) a C₁ to C₂₂ alkylsulfonyloxy group

(for example, a methylsulfonyloxy methanesulfonyloxy group, ethylsulfonyloxy ethanesulfonyloxy group, n-propylsulfonyloxy n-propanesulfonyloxy group or iso-propylsulfonyloxy iso-propanesulfonyloxy group),

- (32) a carbamoyl group,
- (33) a formyl group, and the like. For example, an amino group, a C₁ to C₂₂ alkyl group, an unsaturated C₂ to C₂₂ alkyl group, a C₆ to C₁₄ aryl group, a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaryl group, a 3-membered to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a C₃ to C₁₄ cycloalkyl group are preferable. In particular, the substituent is preferably one or two substituents such as an amino group, a C₁ to C₂₂ alkyl group, a 3-membered to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group, and a C₃ to C₁₄ cycloalkyl group, for example. In addition, the above-described amino group (9) and carbamoyl group (31) given as the substituents in the

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above-described group "which may have a substituent" may be each further substituted with one or two C_1 to C_{22} alkyl groups, unsaturated C_2 to C_{22} alkyl groups or C_6 to C_{14} aryl groups.